CASE 4442: Application of TEXACO FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Case, Number.
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Application,

Transcripts.

5 m all Exhibts.

ETC

February 23, 1971

REGULAR HEARING

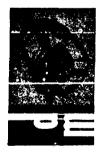
IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Texaco Inc. for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico.

Case No. 4442 (De Novo)

BEFORE: Mr. A. L. "Pete" Porter Mr. Alex Armijo

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING



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SPECIALIZING IN: DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENT 209 SIMMS BLDG.* P.C. BOX 1092 * PHONE 243*6691* ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 8710 MR. PORTER: The hearing will come to order. On the docket this morning are Cases 4442 and 4447 which were appealed from decision made after Examiner Hearing and continued -- I mean, they were set for hearing on the Regular Hearing on February 17th. At that time, we were unable to get a quorum of the Commission so they were continued until today and we'll take up Case 4442 at this time.

MR. HATCH: Case 4442, De Novo, continued from the February 17th, 1971 hearing.

Application of Texaco, Incorporated, for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico.

MR. BATEMAN: If the Commission please, I'm Ken Bateman with the firm of White, Gilbert, Koch and Kelly, Santa Fe, appearing on behalf of the Applicant Texaco, Inc. I have one witness, Mr. Dale McCarter, and ask that he be sworn.

(Witness sworn.)

MR. PORTER: Will there be any other appearances in the case? All right.

(Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits 1 through 4, inclusive, were duly marked for identification.)

DALE MCCARTER

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. BATEMAN:

- O Mr. McCarter, are vou ready?
- 7 A Yes.

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- O Will you state what Texaco seeks by its application today.
- Texaco seeks an exception to statewide Rule 505 to permit the assignment of more than one single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo reef pool; the two wells' surface locations both being in Unit E of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East.

In the alternative, Texaco seeks an exception to statewide Pule 104-Cl to permit the State AE Well Number 8 to have perforations outside the horizontal limits of the proration unit presently assigned to the well.

- Would vou refer to your Exhibit Number 1 and state what relevance it has to your application.
- Exhibit Number 1 is a map of the Vacuum-Abo reef pool.

 It shows that the pool is approximately eight and a half miles long and approximately a mile and a half at its widest point. Along most of its length, it's approximately a mile in width.

Outlined in vellow is Texaco's AE State lease.

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SPECIALIZING III DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS
209 SIMMS BLDG. P.O. BOX 1092 PHONE 243-6691 PLBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG. EAST PALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108

This shows the relationship of this lease to the pool.

It is in the southwest tip of the Vacuum-Abo reef pool.

Would you continue to Exhibit Number 2 which is the

structure map and explain to the Commission what

relevance it has to your application.

A Exhibit Number 2 is a structure map of a portion of the Vacuum-Abo reef pool showing Texaco's AE lease which consists of all of Section 11 and the west half of Section 12. Indicated by a red arrow is the well number eight.

The small open circles indicate the surface locations. The dark circles with the rings around them indicate the bottom-hole locations which were determined from directional surveys.

In cases where a directional survey was not conducted, the bottom-hole location is assumed to be the surface location and is so indicated by the dark circle around it. You will notice that the well number eight, surface location, is in the southwest portion of the Unit E of Section 12.

The well deviated and crossed the section line into Unit H of Section 11. The well is currently completed and perforations located solely in Unit H and this proration unit is currently assigned to the well.

The location of well number eight is approximately

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STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS

1100 feet from well number 10 which is the other well located in Unit E. Its bottom-hole location is in the northeastern portion of Unit E of Section 12. The well is approximately 1160 feet from well number 11, the south offset. It's approximately 1920 from well number 15 which is the west offset and it is approximately 1550 feet from well number 13 which is your north offset. Statewide -- let me back up a minute on this.

These distances are from the top of the proposed perforated interval which Texaco would like to open up in well number 8. This location is actually in Unit E of Section 12, this sub-sea point is.

The statewide rules allow a minimum distance between wells on a standard spacing of 40 acres of 660 feet. Maximum distance between wells under existing statewide rules is 1980 feet.

You will notice, from the distances that I gave you, that the proposed completion in well number 8 is in between this maximum and minimum distance. So the well could or would actually fit these distances.

However, it's surface location or its proposed perforated interval does not meet the requirements that the well be located on its proration unit. Has Texaco notified all other operators in the pool of its application?

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Yes, sir. Texaco, by letter dated February 3rd, 1971, notified all the operators in the Vacuum-Abo reef pool of this application, explaining what Texaco was seeking.

We asked for waivers from each operator. We have received waivers from Cities Service, from Featherstone Development Corporation, from Humble, from Amerada-Hess, from Getty Oil Company.

You will notice that Humble is Texaco's direct offset to the east, as shown on Exhibit Number 2.

The others have not furnished waivers. They have not voiced any objection, so I would assume that their companies had no objection to this application, the granting of this application.

- Mr. McCarter, please continue with Exhibit Number 3 which is the directional survey and explain what deviation was encountered in well number 8.
 - If you will notice back on Exhibit Number 2 again, that the predominate direction of deviation of the well bore between the surface location and the bottom-hole location is to the north and to the northeast. The wells which Texaco would drill prior to drilling well number 8 had all deviated in this direction, so the well number 8 was located 330 out of the southwest corner of Unit E of Section 12, hoping that the bottom-hole location would have been falling in the direct center of the proration

unit.

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However, now, looking at Exhibit Number 3, you will see that the well did deviate to the north for quite a distance and then took a westerly, northwesterly turn and made a direct beeline to the edge of the proration unit and crossed it.

On Exhibit Number 3, I have marked between or just to the right of point number 90 on the curve, the point which is the top of the Abo reef. This is encountered at the -- let's see. This is 60; approximately 62 feet before you reach the section line. Just to the left of point number 90 is the top of the proposed perforations which Texaco would like to perforate in the well. This distance to the section line is $56\frac{1}{2}$ feet, so our proposed completion then would be 56½ feet in to Unit E of Section 12. The well is currently completed to the left of the proration unit line which is the section line between 11 and 12.

- When was well number 8 completed?
- Well number 8 was completed in, let's see, it was July of 1963 and the well was completed as a top allowable well.
- Would you continue on to Exhibit Number --

MR. PORTER: What was the completion date?

MR. BATEMAN: 1963.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

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EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTION

And it was a top allowable well at MR. PORTER: that time. The allowables were much lower at that time?

THE WITNESS: That is correct. It wasn't top allowable on the well for very long, though. It immediately dropped back off.

> MR. PORTER: I see. Thank you.

- Q (Mr. Bateman continuing) Would you continue on to Exhibit Number 4, the log.
 - Exhibit Number 4 is a log of the well, and I have indicated for your information a dashed red line crossing the log at 8683 feet which is where the well crossed the proration unit boundary. The existing perforations are shown in red from 8723 to 8880. I have indicated what Texaco would like to open up in the well bore, the proposed perforations in blue, from 8360 to 8689, or 88, excuse me.

The top of the Abo reef in this well occurs at approximately 8314. There's over 600 feet of Abo reef present in this well bore, at the present time, and under the present conditions, approximately one-third of these is allowed for production.

Texaco would like to open up these remaining twothirds so that we can effectively drain this reservoir at this point.

What is the present production of well number 8?

Well number 8 is currently producing approximately 40

	2	barrels of oil per day.	
	3	MR. PORTER: That's well number what?	
ing in Contract Contract	4	THE WITNESS: Well number 8.	
ು .೦ ್ಷೆ	5	MR. PORTER: Is producing now 40 barrels?	
And the second s	6	THE WITNESS: 40 barrels per day.	
	7	Q (Mr. Bateman continuing) How many do you expect to be	
•	8	produced with additional perforations?	
	9	A It's estimated that approximately 274,000 barrels of	
	10	additional oil can be recovered from well number 8 by	
	11	opening up this additional section.	
CONVENTIONS CO 87103	12	Q What do you estimate the cost of a new well would be in	
	13	Unit H?	
DAILY COPY, . NEW MEX 0 87108	14	A If Texaco had to drill a well in Unit H, it would cost	
TESTIMONY, DAI	15	us approximately \$136,000 to drill and complete the well.	
UQUERQUE. NEW MEXICO	16	Q What would it cost to work over well number 8?	
1. ALB	17	A It would cost us to perforate this additional section,	
243-669 - 8000EF	18	approximately \$11,800.	
E m -	19	Q If your application is approved, do you believe it will	
, HEARIN K 1092 •	20	protect correlative rights and prevent waste?	
DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, ST.	21	A Yes, I do. Texaco's application is designed so that	
IN DEP	22	there will be one well for each forty-acre proration unit	
SPECIALIZING IN. DI 209 SIMMS BLDG.	23	in the reservoir. We're not asking for any greater	
SPECI 209 S FIRS	24	density so that the number of wells or number of completions	3
	25	or take points, as a lot of people put it, would be the	

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DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTION SPECIALIZING IN 209 SI FIRST same in this portion of the reservoir as it would be for the extreme northeastern end of the reservoir.

This well is located in approximately the center of the lease, so the effect upon the immediate offset operators would be mil. Also, we have two complete rows of producing wells between this location and the nearest offset operator, so I don't feel that we could affect them at all by completing the well in this manner.

- Were Exhibits 1 through 4 prepared by you or at your 0 direction?
- Exhibits 2 through 4 were prepared at my direction, and Exhibit Number 1 was prepared by an engineering subcommittee which was studying the Vacuum-Abo reef which had a Texaco representative present.

MR. RATEMAN: I move the introduction of Texaco's Exhibits 1 through 4 at this time.

MR. PORTER: Without objection, the exhibits will he admitted.

> (Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits 1 through 4 were duly admitted into evidence.)

- (Mr. Bateman continuing) Do you have anything further, Mr. McCarter?
 - Yes. I'd like to make a short, little statement here that what Texaco is seeking by this application is to have two wells and two forty-acre proration units to drain the

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reservoir instead of having to go out here and drill a third or additional well.

The additional cost of drilling at this point, Texaco does not believe is necessary due to the location of the well. We have operated this well at a reduced capacity for approximately six and a half years.

All of the proration units surrounding Unit H are productive and four of these proration units are currently flowing top allowable so we can expect that number 8 can flow top allowable when it is completed.

Well number 8 has only recovered 136,000 barrels. The offsets have recovered anywhere from -- well, the majority of them have recovered from 300 to 379,000 barrels of oil. The only exception to this is the north offset which has only recovered 87,000.

This is a well completed in the back reef facies of the reservoir, so recovery is not expected to be as high in that direction.

Texaco, and especially us engineers, appreciate New Mexico rules regarding the orderly development of pools, especially when it comes to the inauguration of secondary recovery projects. It makes the selection of a pattern and the estimated ultimate recovery greater and easier.

I know of no other instance which has been brought

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to the Commission's attention where a well did cross a proration unit boundary inside of the pay zone.

Texaco is not trying to take advantage of any other operator or of the Commission. We are simply trying to prevent the waste of approximately \$126,000 to drill an additional well. This money could be then poured back into additional development in other areas.

Texaco prays that the Commission will take a favorable action on Texaco's application.

MR. BATEMAN: No further direct testimony.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. PORTER:

Mr. McCarter, now, you've got, currently, the surface locations; you have two wells on Unit E of Section 12, is that right?

That is correct. Surface locations.

And your well number 8 deviated into Section 11 in Unit H?

Yes, sir.

Where it was perforated in Unit H and has been produced from those perforations only?

That is correct.

All right. Now, your well number 10 was bottomed on 23 Unit E?

25 A Yes, sir.

Q	And you have been producing well number 10 only, of
2	course, from Unit E. Now, what is the capacity of
•	well number 10?
A	Well number 10 is currently capable of flowing 302 barrels
	of oil with no water.
Q	So it is making top allowable?
A	Yes, sir.
Q	And you feel that well number 10 will not recover all
	of the oil in Unit E?
A	That is correct. All of the oil, I do not believe that
	it will recover, because of the nature of the reservoir.
Q	So you desire to perforate at some, I believe it was,
	56½ feet?
A	Well, excuse me. Just one minute. Let me back up on
	that answer.
	I was looking at the wrong proration unit. I believe
	that the well number 10 in Unit E could recover the oil
	in Unit E, yes, sir, I do.
Q	But you want to speed up the recovery by perforating in
	Unit E on your well number 8?
A	That is correct, and also to recover all the oil in
	Unit H.
Q	You feel that your perforations inside of Unit E will
	also drain some of the oil from Unit H?
Α	From the well number 8?
	A Q A Q A Q A Q

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SPECIALIZING INI DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DALLY COPY, CONVENTIONS
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MR. PORTER: Mr. Nutter, do you have anything? MR. NUTTER: Yes, sir.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. NUTTER:

Mr. McCarter, just at a glance at Exhibit Number 2 Would indicate that the area which is not developed, the area which does not have a well in it, is the area to the northwest of the bottom of the location number 8. Is that correct? That's the vast area that has no well on it?

That is correct. Α

And yet, you are proposing to drain this area by perforating away from it. Your perforations, in effect, would be along the line coming from the -- the perforations that you propose would be on the line coming from the bottom of the location in a southeasterly direction and going away from the area which doesn't have a well on it.

If you want to drain that area, shouldn't you be drilling a well in Unit H?

Well, with the existing wells around Unit H and the completion of well number 8 in that location, I believe that all of that area can be drained by those wells. But an examination of the plat indicates that there's an

absence of a well in Unit H centrally located.

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ur ri Li p		3		that has not been produced. That's where the lack of oil
je Ga		1		
୍ଦିର		4		is coming from. There is where you need the well, Mr.
∴ 0		5		McCarter.
		6	Α	Well, if you will also look over in the southwest quarter
33 		7		of Section 12, you will find that there's also a
20	•	8		drainage area over there which, inside, you could put a
= - 5		9		forty-acre proration unit.
	1	0	Q	Well, most of that area would be south of the oil-water
) 	1	1		contact, though, wouldn't it?
FIQ.	g 1	2	A	No.
	6 1. 6 1.	3	Q	In the southwest quarter of Section 12.
Y COPY,	NEW MEX 87108	4	A	No. I'm saying if you would look at the development on
NY, DAIL	18 00 1.	5		Humble's lease, especially with the configuration between
TESTIMO	CERS EX ME	6		well number 2 and well number 3, you can see they are
T & S	ALBU	7		1980 feet apart.
STATERENTS,	163-669 UOUER	8	Q	The southeast quarter?
	8 1 19 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	٥	A	Excuse me. Southwest. You will find that the exact same
HEARINGS,	1092 90 36. EAS	0		situation exists with wells further removed than the
YONS,	× 0	1		proposed proposal that we have put before you today.
	1000 P. 0.	2	Q	But they are not asking for more than one allowable to
	FIRST NATIONAL	3		a given 40, are they, either?
SPECIAL	7. 24 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	4	A	Well, we are not asking for more than one to a given 40.
	2!	5		We are asking that we have two wells here and we would
	2;	5 <u> </u>		We are asking that we have two wells here and we would

That's the area that is not developed. That's the area

That is correct.

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					like two allowables. We don't want to go out there and
			1		drill another well at this time, but we are not asking
			2		drill another well at this time, and
	ersi €S		3		for any advantage over the allowable situation.
	Sec. of		4	Q .	In your opinion, are there unproduced reserves here which
	ෙ ව.0		•	•	would justify the drilling of another well?
	C.CC Laures Aprile		5		It would be close, but I think that we could, yes. I
• -	CO ETEL		6	A	
•	7 (15)		7		think we could.
> 4	9		8	Q	You mentioned the cost of the well would be 100
÷	y-III		9	Α	\$136,000.
on - } - }	ille ille		10	Q	And you mentioned how many barrels of oil that you were
.:	dearnley-meier				going to
5			11		Well, we stated that we expect well number 8 to recover
		ENTION 7 103	12	A	an additional 270,000 barrels of oil.
4		, CONV	13		an additional 270,000 same
		TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS QUERQUE: NEW MEXICO 87103 EW MEXICO 87108	14	Q	270?
		HONY, DAIL	15	A	Unit H. I'm sorry. There may be approximately 175 to
		TESTIMON QUERQL EW MEXI	16		200,000 barrels of reserves which would not be recovered
Į.š		₩ 3 Z	17	1	if we
9		EX S			Mr. McCarter, if you are not requesting more than one
*		ATEMEN' E 243-0 LBUQL	18	Q	allowable from a given 40, what about this proposition:
(# 8		GS, STA PHONE	19		That you take a test on well number 8 prior to
		REARINGS, ST.	20		That you take a test on well name with that well would
. ()		POSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATPOSITIONS, 1002 PHONE PLO. BOX 1002 PHONE PANK BLOG. EAST AL	2	1	reperforating it and establish how much that well would
		DEPOSITIONS, MEARINGS, STATEMENTS, C. P.O. BOX 1092-PHONE 243-669	2	2	produce. Then go ahead, perforate in Unit E of Section 12
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		ING ING	2	3	find out how much additional oil it takes to make the
S 200		SPECIALIZING INI DE	Z .	24	top allowable, and then deduct that additional oil from
		SPI			well number 10 for its allowable.
\$				25	WGJ. J. 1880

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A Now, wait a minute. Wait a minute.

Q How much is number 8 making at the present time?

Q And what was the top allowable for the pool, sir?

A 240 with a normal unit allowable of 80;.

Q 240. So if you perforated well number 8 over in Unit E of Section 12 and made an additional -- increased the capacity to where number 8 would make top allowable, 200 barrels of it would be coming from Unit E in Section 12, correct?

Number 8 is making approximately 40 barrels a day.

A Not all of it would be,

Q Well, the additional would be, because that's where the additional perforations are going to be.

A The majority of those perforations are that those perforations do cross those proration boundaries, too.

MR. PORTER: What is the top allowable for the pool?

MR. NUTTER: 240. So the well will make 40 barrels at the time, so if he perforated over in Unit E in Section 12, top allowable of oil, 40 barrels would be coming from H of 11, and 200 barrels would be coming from E of 12. So I submit if he's not asking for more than one allowable from a given 40, then the allowable for number 10 should be reduced by 200 barrels. Otherwise, Unit E of Section 12 is recovering more than one single top allowable, which is contrary to the rules of conservation of the Commission.

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Mr. McCarter, I also -vou perforate a well. t

When you perforate a well, the drainage rate of that well is essentially in a circular form or spherical drainage. So if we actually perforate well number 8 in the proposed spot, I don't believe you could actually say that all that 200 barrels would be coming from Unit E. A portion of that oil is coming from Unit H.

Q (Mr. Nutter continuing) But you'd have to perforate
Unit H.

A That is correct. What I'm saying is that we have two wells here. We have two forty-acre proration units. We would like to have the benefit of producing both wells at top allowable.

Now, we've made our application in two manners; as an exception to two rules, either 505 or 104-C1.

- Do you know the reason why this well deviated over into the other section and it wasn't caught until after the well was completed?
- A Well, now, I don't know why the well has actually deviated in the direction that it did. There were quite a few that went north.
 - Well, if I may, I'd like to read into the record a statement from Texaco's letter of June 20th, 1961, in which
 they sought approval of this well. They said, considerable
 savings would be made by allowing the contractor to make

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SPECIALIZING IN: DEPUSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS
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FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG. EAST.• ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108

a faster penetration without deviation limitations, so in order to save money, Texaco allowed the driller to drill the fastest and easiest way and as a result they've got the crooked hole and I think they've got a situation to live with now.

MR. NUTTER: I have no further questions.

MR. PORTER: Anyone else have any questions?

MR. BATEMAN: Mr. McCarter, do you have a further statement to make?

THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'd like to make a statement in regard to Mr. Nutter's last statement. The oil industry is made up of a bunch of optimistic individuals and individualists who, if they sat back on their haunches and took things as they were, the oil business wouldn't be in the condition it is in today.

These men are made up of engineers, of geologists, of drilling people. Each one of them approaches a problem looking for an easier way to do it for a way to save money. You will remember the cost squeezes that the industry has gone through in the last few years where we have searched for manners and methods to reduce our costs, most of the companies. And I'm glad to report Texaco succeeded. Now, a lot of these were administrative reductions in cost.

The drilling of wells in a new pool are extremely costly until experience is gained in the pool where we try out

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SPECIALIZING IN: EEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS 200 SIMMS BLDG.• P.O. BOX 1092•PHONE 243-6691•ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG. EAST•ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87108 new methods and new procedures. So I do not feel that if
Texaco or even myself decided that the deviation in one
direction was prevalent, that the reduction in cost to drill
a well by not taking into consideration the weight on the
bit was a justified means to an end.

Now, vou will realize that once Texaco saw that this method or procedure did not work, that the remainder of the wells were completed in their forty-acre proration unit, so you might say this was a trial-and-error method which the oil business goes through in a lot of instances. And I do not think that Texaco should be penalized for taking these steps. We are all innovators and we're all subject to change. Thank you.

MR. BATEMAN: One brief statement, if the Commission please. I'd like to point out again that all offset operators have been notified. Some have responded with waivers; others didn't respond at all, and we'd like to re-emphasize that we take that to mean that that indicates approval of those who did not respond.

The second point would be that if the Commission chooses to grant exception to Rule 104-CL, we have in effect two wells on 80 acres; one well dedicated to each 40 which is of course the pool rule in this area, and I do not believe that the evidence here indicates that there would be any violation or any affect on the correlative rights of other operators. Thank you.

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(Whereupon, a brief discussion was held off the record.) MR. PORTER: Back on the record. The Commission dearnley-meier reporting will take the case under advisement. SPECIALIZING IN: DEPOSI"TONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS

MR. PORTER:

Off the record.

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A Reference

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	#50 6.03 6.03		4	Direct Examination by Mr. Bateman	3 12
	0 4.3		5	Cross Examination by Mr. Porter Cross Examination by Mr. Nutter	14
	A Comment of the Comm			G1033 DAGMANA	
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I, CHARLOTTE J. MACIAS, Court Reporter in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

COUNTY OF BERNALILLO

Court Reporter

that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings, to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

SS.

SPECIALIZING IN: DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTION

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NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

 REGULAR	HEARING		
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dearnley-meier reporting service, inc.

BEFORE THE
NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Santa Fe, New Mexico

February 17, 1971

REGULAR HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Texaco, Inc., for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico.

Case No. 4442

BEFORE: Mr. A. L. Porter
Governor Bruce King

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING



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MR. PORTER: I have an announcement concerning 2 Cases 4442 and 4457. I had told Governor King some time ago, 3 as you know, right now he's right in the middle of the Legislative session over there, and we prevailed on him to come over and be with us throughout the allowable hearing.

I had promised that I could have a quorum without 7 him to hear the other cases; Mr. Armijo had agreed to sit with me, and on Monday this week, I was advised that Mr. Armijo was sick. Again, vesterday. But at that time, he thought he could be here this morning. But they called in this morning and said that he would not be able to be here.

Now, we're going to have to recess the hearing at this time because Governor King will have to go back to his office on account of prior commitments that were made; on the basis of the information that I had previously given him, he cannot sit with us during the remainder of the day.

After the Legislative session, he'll be with us, at as many of these hearings as he possibly can.

So I'm going to have to recess the hearing at this time and try to get in touch with Mr. Armijo either by telephone at home or someone in his office and see whether he will be available sometime later today or whether we will have to agree on a date to which we can continue these two cases.

I realize that they are De Novos, that they have

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ALIZING IN: DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS
MMS BLDG.*P.D. BOX 1092*PHONE 243-6691*ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103
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1 been appealed from the Examiner's recommendations and the
2 Commission's decision on the basis of the Examiner
3 recommendations and that vou are, in both cases, anxiously
4 awaiting a decision. But sometimes, circumstances are beyond
5 our control.

So at this time, we'll recess the hearing for a
few minutes and we'll reconvene, and I'll let you know whether
we can proceed with these two cases or what date we can
expect to continue them to. So the hearing is recessed.

(Whereupon, the hearing stood in a brief recess.)

MR. PORTER: The hearing will come to order, please.

13
14 involved in Case 4442 and Case 4457 has been inconvenienced
15 to any degree, but because of circumstances that were
16 previously explained in the record, there was nothing we
17 could do about it, and we didn't know about it in time to
18 notify you in advance to keep you from having to make the
19 trip, although I don't know why anybody would object to coming
20 to Santa Fe. But I have contacted, during the recess period,
21 Commissioner Armijo and he will not be able to come to attend
22 the hearing today. He said that it would be fine with him
23 if we set the hearing for next Tuesday morning at nine o'clock,
24 and certainly, we hope that he will be in condition to meet
25 with us at that time.

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO SS COUNTY OF BERNALILLO) I, CHARLOTTE J. MACIAS, Court Reporter in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify 5 that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings, to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability. Court Reporter

JALIZING IN: DEPOSITIONS, HEARINGS, STATEMENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CO

209 SIMMS BIDG. . P.O. BOX 1092 . PHONE 243-5691 . AIBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION Santa Fe, New Mexico October 14, 1970

EXAMINER HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of Texaco Inc. for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico.

Case No. 4442

BEFORE: Daniel S. Nutter, Examiner.



TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

1120 SIMMS BLDG. • P.O. BOX 1092 • PHONE 243-6691 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 1203 FIRST NATIONAL BANK EAST • PHONE 256-1294 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO MR. NUTTER: Call Case 4442.

MR. HATCH: Application of Texaco Inc. for salt water disposal, Lea County, New Mexico.

MR. BATEMAN: Mr. Examiner, I am Ken Bateman of the firm of White, Gilbert, Koch and Kelly, appearing for the Applicant, Texaco. I have one witness and desire that he be sworn.

MR. NUTTER: The witness is still under oath from the previous case.

MR. BATEMAN: I take it his qualifications are --

MR. NUTTER: He is still qualified.

MR. BATEMAN: -- acceptable.

MR. NUTTER: Just barely.

(Whereupon, Applicant's Exhibits 1 through 4 were marked for identification.)

DALE MCCARTER,

having been previously duly sworn according to law, upon his oath, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. BATEMAN:

- Q Refer to Exhibit 1, Mr. McCarter, and tell the Commission what Texaco seeks.
- A Texaco seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the



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Commission's Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than one single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to two wells located in Unit No. "E" of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, being wells No. 8 and 10 of Texaco's New Mexico's "AE" State Lease.

- O What does Exhibit 1 relate?
- A Exhibit 1 is a structure map of a portion of the Abo

 Reef Formation. It shows Texaco's "AE" Lease being

 all of Section 11 and the west half of Section 12,

 Township 18 South, Range 34 East.

You will note on the map that there are small circles connected by a line to a blacked out circle and then circled by a larger circle. The small circle indicates the surface location of the wells, where the wells were drilled.

The other end of the dotted line indicates the bottom hole location as determined by directional surveys run by the company.

MR. NUTTER: Is this shown by the black dot?
THE WITNESS: That's by the black dot.

MR. NUTTER: What does the circle around the black dot indicate?



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BOX 1

THE WITNESS: The circle around there was for me to color but they colored everything yellow on the map so I didn't do it. I figured my colors would get lost in there anyway.

MR. NUTTER: Okay. At any rate, the small open circle is the surface location?

THE WITNESS: That is correct.

MR. NUTTER: The black dot which has a larger circle around it indicates the bottom hole location?

THE WITNESS: That is correct.

MR. NUTTER: I see.

THE WITNESS: This does indicate by the number of these examples on this plat that deviation of the well bore during drilling was a problem in this area.

MR. NUTTER: Were these bottom hole locations determined by directional survey in each case or are --

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

MR. NUTTER: -- these totco readings all accumlated in one direction?

THE WITNESS: No, sir. These were determined by directional surveys.

MR. NUTTER: Actual directional surveys?

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. You will notice in Units



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1120 SIMMS BLOG. • P.O. BOX II

"F", "K", "L" and "N" of Section 12, where wells were drilled prior to Texaco drilling Well No. 8 and in each instance, the bottom hole location is located northeast of the surface location.

Texaco, when they drilled Well No. 8, decided to move 330 from the corner of this proration unit to drill Well No. 8 and it didn't follow the course of the others in that it ended up northwest. It just so happens that the Abo Reef pay zone is located in this well bore in both Unit "E" of Section 12 and Unit "H" of Section 11.

At that time, Texaco made application for administrative approval from the Commission to complete the well in the lower portion of the Abo Reef which was located entirely in Unit "H" of Section 11, which the Commission granted.

Well No. 10, which was originally scheduled to be drilled in Unit "H" was then moved and drilled in Unit "E" so at the current time Well No. 8 is completed only in Unit "H" of Section 11 and Unit "H" is assigned as its proration unit.

Well No. 10, although it doesn't indicate it on this map, we did run a directional survey on this well and I do have the coordinance from the surface location. The surface location is the one that is shown.



then, a black dot with a large circle around it doesn't indicate the bottom hole location? THE WITNESS: That is correct, unfortunately. The well did deviate 235.4 feet north of this surface location and 144.3 feet east so that you can see that when we did drill No. 10, it deviated in directions that most of the

(By Mr. Bateman) So, initially, Well No. 8 was intended to be productive in Unit "E", is that correct?

MR. NUTTER: So, in this particular instance

That is correct.

wells in the area did.

- Refer to your Exhibits No. 2 and 3 and tell us what it Q relates regarding the deviation experience.
- Exhibit No. 2 is the path of the well as indicated by A the directional survey and Exhibit No. 3 is the actual data from which Exhibit No. 2 was drawn. It does show the surface location -- excuse me, Exhibit 2 shows a surface location in the bottom right hand corner of the exhibit.

It shows the path of the well back to the north and then turn back west and where it actually crosses the section line and into Unit "H". I also marked on here where the top of the Abo Reef occurs in the well



1120 SIAMS BLDG. • P.O. BOX 1092 • PHONE 2.3-6.91 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

bore.

Now, these distances here are measured depths, correct. This is not put on to a true vertical depth. It occurs at 8320 feet which in this instance is just to the right of directional survey shot No. 90. I have also indicated Texaco's proposed top of new perfs in Well No. 8 which will be immediately to the left of this point No. 90. The top of the Abo Reef is 56 feet -- according to my calculation 56 and a half feet into Unit "E".

MR. NUTTER: What is the horizontal scale here?

THE WITNESS: This is twenty feet per major

division so it would be two feet per division.

MR. NUTTER: In other words, the major division would be about an inch there?

THE WITNESS: That is correct.

MR. NUTTER: And the small one is a tenth of an inch?

THE WITNESS: The small one is a tenth of an inch.

MR. NUTTER: So, it's two feet per tenth?

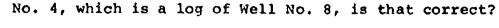
THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. Okay. The top of the proposed perforated interval then occurs 56 and a half feet into the unit.

Q (By Mr. Bateman) All right. Refer to your Exhibit



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That is correct. Exhibit No. 4 has indicated on it at a depth of 8683 a dash line running across the log where the section line occurs in this well. It also indicates in red the existing perforations which are below this point.

In blue are what Texaco would like to open up as additional pay in this well to effectively drain this portion of the reservoir. You will notice these proposed perfs are actually on both sides of the section line.

- What do you expect to obtain in production?
- By opening this additional pay which is -- which we have accomplished on other wells in the area; we expect a top allowable flowing oil well. The well is currently producing approximately 44 barrels of oil a day.
- What would be the top allowable rate? Q
- Top allowable at a normal unit allowable of 70 is 210 Α barrels of oil per day.

MR. NUTTER: And it's marking what?

THE WITNESS: Forty-four barrels of oil a day.

O (By Mr. Bateman) What production experience have you had from Well No. 10?



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Nell No. 10 is capable of producing in excess of top allowable. The well was completed originally in the lower portion of the Abo Reef. I might point out that most of Texaco's completions in the Abo Reef in this area were in the lower portion of the pay zone.

It was thought at the time that we drilled the wells that we had enough vertical communication to effectively drain the reservoir. However, this has not been borne out by actual production practices. We have come back into a number of these wells and perforated additional pay in the top of the Abo Reef.

Well No. 10 was worked over in April of 1967. It was producing 163 barrels of oil per day prior to work-over. After workover, it potentialed for 224 barrels of oil per day and this workover was opening up additional pay.

Well No. 10 has recovered 372,000 barrels of oil to date. Well No. 8 has only recovered 136,000 barrels of oil. I might go on across due west. Well No. 15, located in Unit "G" of Section 11, is currently capable of flowing top allowable and its cumulative recovery is 355,000 barrels of oil.

Well No. 11 in Unit "I" of Section 11 is currently



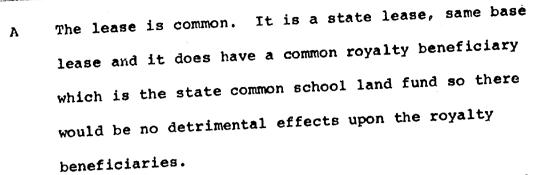
capable of flowing 82 barrels of oil per day and 3 barrels of water. Its cumulative recovery is 379,000 barrels of oil. Now, these are all Crystal or Four Reef wells.

when you get into the back reef, the recoveries and rates are not as attractive. From this data it would appear that we would actually need another drainage point to effectively drain this reservoir.

- Q What additional recovery do you expect from Well No. 8?
- A We have estimated additional recovery at 274,000 barrels of oil. This is with the additional perforations opened up.
- Q p Do you have an estimated cost of recovery?
- A Cost of the workover?
- o Yes.
- A Our estimated cost is \$11,800.00 to complete this workover.
- Q What would it cost to drill another well in Unit "H"?
- A Our estimated cost to actually drill another well in Unit "H" would be \$135,900.00.
- Q What's the status of the lease ownership in Unit "E" and "H"?



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- Q Will correlative rights be protected by the proposal?
- A Yes. The well is located in approximately the center of our block of acreage and it is removed from any off-setting operators.
- Q Were Exhibits 1 through 4 prepared by you or under your direction?
- A Yes, they were.

MR. BATEMAN: I move the admission of Exhibits 1 through 4.

MR. NUTTER: Texaco's Exhibits 1 through 4 will be admitted in evidence.

- Q (By Mr. Bateman) Do you have anything further, Mr. McCarter?
- A No, I don't.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. NUTTER:

- O Mr. McCarter --
- A I would make one additional comment, although it



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1120 SIAMS BLDG. • P.O. BOX 1092 • PHONE 243-6491 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 1203 FIRST NATIONAL BANK EAST • PHONE 25£-1294 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO wasn't advertised in this manner. We are actually seeking this approval so that we can actually produce Well No. 8 at a top allowable rate. The stipulation should be made that Texaco, if granted this request, will not drill a well to the Abo Reef in Unit "H" of Section 11 unless after notice and hearing.

That is all.

MR. RAMEY: Are you implying you are willing to drill a well there?

- Q (By Mr. Nutter) Mr. McCarter, this has declined to the rate of 44 barrels per day from these perforations that are presently open in the well?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q What has been the rate of decline here?
- A I do not have an actual decline curve drawn on the well.
- Q You said the well has only made --
- A It's only made 136,000 barrels. This thing has been at a low rate ever since it came off of top allowable for the well was a top allowable well when it was first completed.
- Q Then it declined rapidly and it has probably been settled out to a relatively low rate for some time?
- A That is correct.

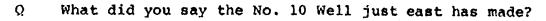


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HEARINGS, STATE MENTS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, DAILY COPY, CONVENTIONS

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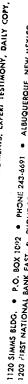


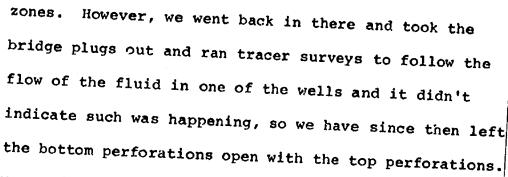
- A It has recovered 372,000 barrels.
- So you've got a 136,000 barrel well in the middle of Q 350 and 372,000?
- Well No. 11 to the south of this location has recovered Α 379,000.
- And 379? And you attribute this to the fact that you Q might say that this well has only half of its possible perforations open?
- It has less than half really, if you will look at the log.
- Well, now, have these other wells been perforated in this interval from up here in the top of the Abo clear down to the lowermost perforations in the existing well?
- Yes, sir.
- Which is almost 600 feet of perforations then for the Q other wells?
- That is correct. Some of the wells when they were originally worked over we left the bottom set of perforations below a bridge plug because of the high rates encountered in the upper portion and we were afraid we would be losing some oil to these depleted



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2 • PHONE 243.60 PHONE 250-1294 BOX 1092





- Mr. McCarter, what would be the matter with bridging these lower perforations off for the time being, opening up your new proposed perforations? You will probably establish top allowable, produce that for some period of time and then at such time as No. 10 has declined to a marginal rate, then the lower perforations in No. 8 could be opened up again back on that 40.
- I don't quite follow you now. We are going to open up Α the upper set of perforations --
- Bridge off these existing perforations and then open Q up the upper perforations?
- Okay. A
- No, it's in the wrong 40. Q
- Then, I have two top allowable wells in that 40 which A I am making this application for.

(Whereupon, a discussion off the record was held.)

Q (By Mr. Nutter) I see now why this proposal would not work. You would have two top allowable wells on





the same 40 and no production on the other 40 --

- A That is correct.
- Q -- which wouldn't be desirable.
- A This would leave you open to drilling another well over there.
- Q Big area there that isn't being drained apparently. A large undeveloped area there between those wells.
- A If you move this surface location on 10 over to a bottom hole location, you will notice that it's only 150 foot off of the quarter quarter section line, with that distance I gave you, so actually we have got -- a well will be completed at approximately 1220 feet apart which would be a non-standard spacing.
- Q Close to 1320.
- A That is correct. We do have a vacant spot in this area which you indicated and we are going down-structure at this point. We are going into back reef faces in that direction, moving back to the north.
- Q I suppose we are talking about the same void, the square between 8, 13, 14 and 15?
- A That is correct.
- Only the north half of that is down-structure; you are going up on the south half?



- That is correct. We can't get another well in there Α without, like you say, going in and drilling another well and then we have the same voided situation occurring in Unit "E", or big area, let's put it this way.
- How do these back face reserves compare with these Q front-side reserves on this reef?
- They are not as good. However, some of them have got A quite substantial reserves.
- Have they produced in the neighborhood of 300,000 plus Q barrels?
- No. 9 has up in Unit "C" of Section 12. It has produced Α 282,000 barrels.
- How about 12 and 13? Q
- Twelve has produced 207,000 barrels. No. 13 has pro-Α duced 87,000 barrels. No. 14 has produced 327,000 barrels. So, there, we have quite a variation between recoveries on two adjoining proration units there without too much structural difference.

You are looking at about 150 feet of structural difference.

MR. NUTTER: Are there any other questions of Mr.

McCarter?

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EAST . P

MR. RAMEY: Mr. McCarter, would it be possible to re-enter this No. 8 and cut a window in your casing and you know directionally drill over it?

THE WITNESS: The well is equipped with two and seven-eighths inch casing, so I believe it would be impossible.

MR. RAMEY: All right.

MR. NUTTER: Are there any other questions of Mr. McCarter? He may be excused.

(Witness excused.)

MR. NUTTER: Do you have anything further, Mr. Bateman?

MR. BATEMAN. No, sir.

MR. NUTTER: Does anyone have anything they wish to offer in Case 4442?

We will take the case under advisement and the hearing is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned.)



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	INDEX	
	WITNESS	PAGE
DALE	MCCARTER	
	Direct Examination by Mr. Bateman	2
	Cross Examination by Mr. Nutter	11
	EXHIBITS	
į	Applicant's 1 through 4	2



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92 • PHONE 243-6691 • ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)

COUNTY OF BERNALILLO)

I, GLENDA BURKS, Court Reporter in and for the County of Bernalillo, State of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing and attached Transcript of Hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission was reported by me; and that the same is a true and correct record of the said proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

Blenda Burks Court Reporter



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OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO P. O. BOX 2088 - SANTA FE 87501

March 31, 1971

GOVERNOR
BRUCE KING
CHAIRMAN

LAND COMMISSIONER
ALEX J. ARMIJO
MEMBER
STATE GEOLOGIST
A. L. PORTER, JR.
SECRETARY -- DIRECTOR

	Re:	Case No.	4442				
Mr. Ken Bateman White, Gilbert, Koch & Kel	lv	Order No.	R-4072-A				
Attorneys at Law	~1	Applicant:					
Post Office Box 787 Santa Fe, New Mexico		Texaco In	c.				
Dear Sir:							
Englosed haravith are two	ronies o	f the shower	rafarangad				
Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Commission order recently entered in the subject case.							
Very truly yours,							
	a. L. Vorter, Os						
A. L. PORTER. Jr.							
and the second second	Secretar	y-Director					
ALP/ir							
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Copy of order also sent to:							
Hobbs OCC x							
Artesia OCC							
Aztec OCC							
Other							

Docket No. 4-71

DOCKET: REGULAR HEARING - WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 17, 1971

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 9 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

ALLOWABLE:

- (1) Consideration of the oil allowable for March and April, 1971;
- (2) Consideration of the allowable production of gas for March, 1971, from fifteen prorated pools in Lea, Eddy, Roosevelt and Chaves Counties, New Mexico. Consideration of the allowable production of gas from nine prorated pools in San Juan, Rio Arriba and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico, for March, 1971.

CASE 4442 (De Novo):

Application of Texaco Inc. for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than one single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in Unit E of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, Lea County, New Mexico, as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line;

Said Well No. 10 is a relatively straight hole with all perforations confined entirely to said Unit E while said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole and would have perforations both in said Unit E of Section 12 and in Unit H of Section 11 of said Township and Range.

Upon application of Texaco Inc., this case will be heard $\overline{\text{DE NOVO}}$ under the provisions of Rule 1220.

In the alternative, applicant seeks an exception to Rule 104-C-I of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit said Well No. 8 to have perforations outside the horizontal limits of the proration unit presently dedicated to said well.

CASE 4457: (DE NOVO) Application of Tenneco Oil Company for the creation of a new pool, assignment of discovery allowable, and promulgation of special pool rules, McKinley County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the creation of a new pool for the production of oil from the "D" zone of the Dakota formation for its Don Ne Pah Well No. 1 located in Unit D of Section 18, Township 17 North, Range 8 West, McKinley County, New Mexico, and for the assignment of an oil discovery allowable to said well. Applicant further seeks the promulgation of special rules for said pool, including provisions for 80-acre spacing units with wells to be drilled in either the northwest or southeast quarter-quarter sections
Upon the application of Tenneco Oil Company this case will be heard DE NOVO under the provisions of Rule 1220.

Land Series

(Case 4498 continued)

(g) Extend the South Prairie-Cisco Pool in Roosevelt County, New Mexico, to include therein:

> TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 36 EAST, NMPM SECTION 21: E/2

(h) Extend the Rock Tank-Lower Morrow Gas Pool in Eddy County, New Mexico, to include therein:

> TOWNSHIP 23 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, NMPM SECTION 1: All

(i) Extend the West Sawyer-San Andres Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

> TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 37 EAST, NMPM SECTION 28: N/2 and SW/4

(j) Extend the Scarborough Yates-Seven Rivers Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

> TOWNSHIP 26 SOUTH, RANGE 36 EAST, NMPM SECTION 25: SE/4

CASE 4499:

Northwestern New Mexico nomenclature case calling for an order for the creation and extension of certain pools in San Juan, McKinley and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico.

(a) Create a new pool in McKinley County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Dakota production and designated as the Hospah Dakota Oil Pool. The discovery well is the Tenneco Oil Corporation Hospah Well No. 10 located in Unit 'C' of Section 12, Township 17 North, Range 9 West, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

> TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, NMPM SECTION 7: NW/4

TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, NMPM SECTION 11: E/2 SE/4 and SE/4 NE/4 SECTION 12: N/2 & N/2 SW/4

(b) Create a new pool in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Gallup-Dakota production and designated as the West Lindrith Gallup-Dakota Oil Pool. The discovery well is the Continental Oil Company Jicarilla 28 Well No. 1 located in Unit J of Section 28, Township 25 North, Range 4 West, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM SECTION 15: W/2 SE/4

SECTION 21: SE/4

SECTION 22: W/2 & W/2 E/2

Regular Hearing - February 17, 1971

(Case 4499 (b) continued)

TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, NMPM SECTION 27: W/2 & W/2 E/2 SECTION 28: E/2, SW/4, & E/2 NW/4 SECTION 32: N/2 SE/4 SECTION 33: N/2 & N/2 S/2 SECTION 34: NW/4, N/2 SW/4, W/2 NE/4 N/2 SE/4 and SE/4 SE/4

(c) Create a new pool in San Juan County, New Mexico, classified as a gas pool for Fruitland-Pictured Cliffs production and designated as the Harper Hill Fruitland Pictured Cliffs Pool. The discovery well is the Dugan Production Corporation Federal "I" Well No. 4 located in Unit C of Section 1, Township 29 North, Range 14 West, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST, NMPM SECTION 1: All

(d) Extend the Aztec-Pictured Cliffs Pool, San Juan County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST, NMPM SECTION 9: W/2 Partial

TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, NMPM SECTION 19: All

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, NMPM SECTION 31: NW/4

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 12 WEST, NMPM SECTION 2: S/2

SECTION 2: 5/2 SECTION 11: E/2 SECTION 12: SW/4 SECTION 13: NW/4

(e) Extend the Blanco-Pictured Cliffs Pool in San Juan County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, NMPM

SECTION 7: SW/4 SECTION 14: NW/4 SECTION 18: W/2

TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST, NMPM

SECTION 1: SE/4 SECTION 12: E/2

TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, NMPM

SECTION 7: NW/4 SECTION 13: W/2

CASE 4498:

Southeastern New Mexico nomenclature case calling for an order for the creation and extension of certain pools in Lea, Eddy and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico.

(a) Create a new pool in Eddy County, New Mexico, classified as a gas pool for Morrow production and designated as the North Antelope Sink-Morrow Gas Pool. The discovery well is the Midwest Oil Corporation Federal J No. 1 located in Unit M of Section 21, Township 18 South, Range 24 East, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, NMPM SECTION 21: W/2

(b) Create a new pool in Eddy County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Lower Pennsylvanian production and designated as the Sand Dunes-Lower Pennsylvanian Pool. The discovery well is the Texas American Oil Corporation Todd 14 Federal No. 1 located in Unit K of Section 14, Township 23 South, Range 31 East, NMPM, with special vertical limits defined as being from 14,030 feet to 15,220 feet as in the discovery well. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 23 SOUTH, RANGE 31 EAST, NMPM SECTION 14: W/2

(c) Extend the North Bagley-Pennsylvanian Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 33 EAST, NMPM SECTION 8: NE/4

(d) Extend the Chaveroo-San Andres Pool in Roosevelt County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, NMPM SECTION 22: SE/4

(e) Extend the Eagle Creek-San Andres Pool in Eddy County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 17 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST, NMPM SECTION 22: SE/4
SECTION 27: NW/4 NE/4 and NE/4 NW/4

(f) Extend the Lea-Bone Springs Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 19 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, NMPM SECTION 36: NW/4

Regular Hearing - February 17, 1971

(Case 4499 (e) continued)

TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, NMPM SECTION 29: SW/4 SECTION 30: SE/4

(f) Extend the Lone Pine-Dakota "D" Oil Pool in McKinley County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, NMPM SECTION 8: SW/4 SW/4 SECTION 17: NW/4 NW/4

TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, NMPM SECTION 13: SE/4 NW/4

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

> CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COM-MISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing <u>de novo</u> at 9 a.m. on February 17, 1971, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," and was continued to 9 a.m. on February 23, 1971.

NOW, on this 30th day of March, 1971, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony presented and the exhibits received at said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That after a hearing before an examiner, Commission Order No. R-4072, dated December 8, 1970, was entered denying the application of Texaco Inc., seeking an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than a single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East,

-2-CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the Morth line and 990 feet from the West line.

- (3) That the applicant requested and was granted a hearing de novo before the Oil Conservation Commission.
- (4) That the application of Texaco Inc., was amended to also seek, as an alternative to the above-described request, an exception to Rule 104-C-I of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the above-described Well No. 8 to have perforations outside the horizontal limits of the proration unit dedicated to the well.
- (5) That said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole that bottomed in the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 11, Township 18 South, Range 34 East.
- (6) That on July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to dedicate the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 to Well No. 8 and ordered to confine the perforated interval to said guarter-quarter section.
- (7) That on said July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to locate its above-described Well No. 10 on said SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, provided said well was drilled in such a manner as to ensure that the perforated interval of said well was confined to the horizontal limits of said SW/4 NW/4.
- (8) That the applicant seeks authority to additionally perforate Well No. 8 in such a manner that it would be perforated within the horizontal limits of both of the above-described proration units and to produce more than one top unit allowable for the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 from the above-described two wells or in the alternative permit said Well No. 8 to produce as the dedicated well for the proration unit comprising the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 with perforations both within and without the horizontal limits of said dedicated units.
- (9) That said Well No. 8 is incapable of producing more than a marginal allowable through perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11.

CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

- (10) That said Well No. 10 is capable of producing more than a top unit allowable through perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12.
- (11) That perforating said Well No. 8 as requested by the applicant would permit the production of additional oil by said Well No. 8.
- (12) That whether said additional oil produced by Well No. 8 is credited to the proration unit comprising the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 or the proration unit comprising the SR/4 ME/4 of said Section 11 it would in fact be produced from perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the unit comprising the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12.
- (13) That the permitted top unit allowable in the subject pool is based upon a standard proration unit consisting of approximately 40 surface acres substantially in the form of a square which is a legal subdivision of the United States Public Land Surveys, or on a governmental quarter-quarter section or lot.
- (14) That permitting the applicant to produce more than one top unit allowable from two wells having perforations within the horizontal limits of the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, a single proration unit, would allow the operator to produce more cil from said single proration unit than other operators in the subject pool are permitted to produce from a single proration unit, and would, therefore, violate the correlative rights of the other operators in the pool.
 - (15) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the subject application is hereby denied.
- (2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

BRUCE KING, Chairman

ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

dr/

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

> CASE No. 4442 Order No. R-4072

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COM-MISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9:30 a.m. on October 14, 1970, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 8th day of December, 1970, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Texaco Inc., is the owner and operator of a loase comprising, among other lands the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 11 and the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12, both in Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the applicant seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than a single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in the above-described SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line.

-2-CASE No. 4442 Order No. R-4072

- (4) That said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole that bottomed in the above-described adjoining SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11.
- (5) That on July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to dedicate the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 to Well No. 8 and ordered to confine the perforated interval to said quarter-quarter section.
- (6) That on said July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to locate its above-described Well No. 10 on said SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, provided said well was drilled in such a manner as to ensure that the perforated interval of said well was confined to the horizontal limits of said SW/4 NW/4.
- (7) That the applicant now proposes to additionally perforate Well No. 8 in such a manner that it would be perforated within the horizontal limits of both of the above-described quarter-quarter sections and to produce more than one top allowable from the above-described two wells, both having perforated intervals within the horizontal limits of one proration unit; namely, the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12.
- (8) That the production of more than one top unit allowable from two wells having perforations within the horizontal limits of a single proration unit would violate the correlative rights of other operators in the subject pool.
 - (9) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the subject application is hereby denied.
- (2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DAVID F. CARGO, Chairma

ALEX J. ARMIJO Member

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Mem er & Secretary

WAIVER OF OBJECTION CASE NO. 4442

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Gentlemen:

Texaco Inc. has advised that they are making application in Case No. 4442, to complete their New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8, Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, in such a manner that the perforated interval will cross the proration unit boundary between Unit H of Section 11 and Unit E of Section 12, T-18-S, R-34-E, Lea County, New Mexico.

It is understood that Texaco's New Mexico "AE" State Wells Number 8 and 10 would than be completed in the same proration unit, Unit E of Section 12. It is also understood that Texaco will be limited to no more than one normal top allowable for the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool for each of these wells.

The undersigned, being an operator in the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, hereby waives objection to the granting of Texaco's request in Case No. 4442, as described above.

COMPANY Amerada Hess Corporation

BY

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DATE Fel

February 17, 1971

WAIVER OF OBJECTION CASE NO. 4442

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Gentlemen:

Texaco Inc. has advised that they are making application in Case No. 4442, to complete their New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8, Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, in such a manner that the perforated interval will cross the proration unit boundary between Unit H of Section 11 and Unit E of Section 12, T-18-S, R-34-E, Lea County, New Mexico.

It is understood that Texaco's New Mexico "AE" State Wells Number 8 and 10 would than be completed in the same proration unit, Unit E of Section 12. It is also understood that Texaco will be limited to no more than one normal top allowable for the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool for each of these wells, for the two proration units, H in Section 11 and E in Section 12.

The undersigned being an operator in the Vacuum Abo

The undersigned, being an operator in the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, hereby waives objection to the granting of Texaco's request in Case No. 4442, as described above.

COMPANY FEATHERSTONE DEVELOPMENT CORP.

BY

ticks) ks - Vice President (Charles W. Hicks February 11, 1971

DATE

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WAIVER OF OBJECTION CASE NO. 4442

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Gentlemen:

Texaco Inc. has advised that they are making application in Case No. 4442, to complete their New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8, Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, in such a manner that the perforated interval will cross the proration unit boundary between Unit H of Section 11 and Unit E of Section 12, T-18-S, R-34-E, Lea County, New Mexico.

It is understood that Texaco's New Mexico "AE" State Wells Number 8 and 10 would than be completed in the same proration unit, Unit E of Section 12. It is also understood that Texaco will be limited to no more than one normal top allowable for the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool for each of these wells.

The undersigned, being an operator in the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, hereby waives objection to the granting of Texaco's request in Case No. 4442, as described above.

COMPANY CITIES SERVICE OIL CO.

ВV

DATE

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WAIVER OF OBJECTION CASE NO. 4442

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Gentlemen:

Texaco Inc. has advised that they are making application in Case No. 4442, to complete their New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8, Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, in such a manner that the perforated interval will cross the proration unit boundary between Unit K of Section 11 and Unit E of Section 12, T-18-S, R-34-E, Lea County, New Mexico.

It is understood that Texaco's New Mexico "AE" State Wells Number 8 and 10 would than be completed in the same proration unit, Unit E of Section 12. It is also understood that Texaco will be limited to no more than one normal top allowable for the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool for each of these wells.

The undersigned, being an operator in the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, hereby waives objection to the granting of Texaco's request in Case No. 4442, as described above.

COMPANY

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

BY

DATE

FEBRUARY 11, 1971

FEB 1 5 1971

WAIVER OF OBJECTION CASE NO. 4442

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission P. O. Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Gentlemen:

Texaco Inc. has advised that they are making application in Case No. 4442, to complete their New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8, Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, in such a manner that the perforated interval will cross the proration unit boundary between Unit H of Section 11 and Unit E of Section 12, T-18-S, R-34-E, Lea County, New Mexico.

It is understood that Texaco's New Mexico "AE" State Wells Number 8 and 10 would than be completed in the same proration unit, Unit E of Section 12. It is also understood that Texaco will be limited to no more than one normal top allowable for the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool for each of these wells.

The undersigned, being an operator in the Vacuum Abo Reef Pool, hereby waives objection to the granting of Texaco's request in Case No. 4442, as described above.

Getty Cil Company

COMPANY

BY

DATE

E. Pierce, Dist. Prod. Manager

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BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

No. 4442

APPLICATION FOR HEARING DE NOVO

Comes now Texaco, Inc. and for its application applies for a hearing de nove upon its original application herein and makes its application in accordance with Article 65-3-11.1, N.M.S.A. (1953) and Oil Conservation Commission Rule Number 1220, and in support thereof would show the Commission:

1. That the Applicant herein is adversely affected by the Commission's Order Number R-4072 issued on December 8, 1970. A true copy of Order Number R-4070 is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

WHEREFORE, the Applicant prays that its original application be set for hearing de novo at the earliest possible date, and that after due notice and hearing as required by law, the Commission approve the original application in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXACO, INC.

10.,

WHITE, GILBERT, KOCH & KELLY

P.O. Box 787

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Attorneys for the Applicant

DOCKEY MARKED

De 3-5-7/

WHITE, GILBERT, KOCH & KELLY ATTORNEYS AT LAW P. O. BOX 787 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

> CASE No. 4442 Order No. R-4072

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COM-MISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9:30 a.m. on October 14, 1970, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter.

NOW, on this 8th day of December, 1970, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Texaco Inc., is the owner and operator of a lease comprising, among other lands, the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 11 and the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12, both in Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the applicant seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than a single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in the above-described SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line.

Exhabit "A"

-2-CASE No. 4442 Order No. R-4072 in the above-described adjoining SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11.

- (4) That said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole that bottomed
- (5) That on July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to dedicate the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 to Well No. 8 and ordered to confine the perforated interval to said quarter-quarter section.
- (6) That on said July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to locate its above-described Well No. 10 on said SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, provided said well was drilled in such a manner as to ensure that the perforated interval of said well was confined to the horizontal limits of said SW/4 NW/4.
- (7) That the applicant now proposes to additionally perforate Well No. 8 in such a manner that it would be perforated within the horizontal limits of both of the above-described quarter-quarter sections and to produce more than one top allowable from the abovedescribed two wells, both having perforated intervals within the horizontal limits of one proration unit; namely, the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12.
- (8) That the production of more than one top unit allowable from two wells having perforations within the horizontal limits of a single proration unit would violate the correlative rights of other operators in the subject pool.
 - (9) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- That the subject application is hereby denied.
- That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

> STATE OF NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DAVID F. CARGO, Chairman

ALEX J. ARMIJO, Member

SEAL

A. L. PORTER, Jr., Member & Secretary

esr/

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

No. 4442

APPLICATION FOR HEARING DE NOVO

Comes now Texaco, Inc. and for its application applies for a hearing de novo upon its original application herein and makes its application in accordance with Article 65-3-11.1, N.M.S.A. (1953) and Oil Conservation Commission Rule Number 1220, and in support thereof would show the Commission:

1. That the Applicant herein is adversely affected by the Commission's Order Number R-4072 issued on December 8, 1970. A true copy of Order Number R-4070 is attached hereto as Exhibit Λ .

As an alternative to the matters set forth in the original application herein, Texaco, Inc. seeks an exception to Statewide Rule 104-C-I to permit the completion of the New Mexico "AE" State Well No. 8 outside of the assigned 40 acre proration unit, being Unit H of Section 11, Township 18 South, Range 34 East.

WHEREFORE, the Applicant prays that its original application and the alternative set forth herein be set for hearing de novo at the earliest possible date, and that after due notice and hearing as required by law, the Commission grant its approval.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

TEXACO, INC
W. N. Sands
J. S. Rowe
P. O. Box 3109
Midland, Texas 79701

WHITE, GILBERT, KOCH & KELLY

By Lewnith Continue

Attorneys for the Applicant



OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO P. O. BOX 2000 - SANTA PE 87801

STATE SECLOSIST
A. L. PORTER, JR.
SECRETARY - DIRECTOR

GOVERNOR
DAVID F. CARGO
CHAIRMAN

EAND COMMISSIONER ALEX J. ARMIJO MEMBER

December 8, 1970

Mr. Ken Bateman White, Gilbert, Koch & Kelly	Res	Case No.	4442
Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 787		Order No. R-4072 Applicant:	
Santa Pe, New Mexico		TEXACO	INC.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the above-referenced Commission order recently entered in the subject case.

A. L. PORTER, Jr.
Secretary-Director

ALP/ir
Copy of order also sent to:
Hobbs OCC__x
Artesia OCC__
Astec OCC__
Other



DOCKET: REGULAR HEARING - WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 14, 1970

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 9 A.M. - MORGAN HALL, STATE LAND OFFICE BUILDING, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

ALLOWABLE: (1) Consideration of the oil allowable for November and December, 1970;

(2) Consideration of the allowable production of gas for November, 1970, from fifteen prorated pools in Lea, Eddy, Roosevelt and Chaves Counties, New Mexico. Consideration of the allowable production of gas from nine prorated pools in San Juan, Rio Arriba and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico, for November, 1970.

CASE 4436: (THIS CASE WILL BE HEARD BEFORE THE FULL COMMISSION OR BY EXAMINER DANIEL S. NUTTER)

Application of El Paso Natural Gas Company for the amendment of the General Rules and Regulations governing the prorated gas pools of New Mexico and the amendment of the Special Rules and Regulations governing the Tapacito-Pictured Cliffs and Basin-Dakota Gas Pools located in Rio Arriba, San Juan, and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks the amendment of the General Rules and Regulations governing the prorated gas pools of Northwest and Southeast New Mexico and the Special Rules and Regulations governing the Tapacito-Pictured Cliffs and Basin-Dakota Gas Pools located in Rio Arriba, San Juan, and Sandoval Counties, to permit substantial changes in the method of classifying marginal wells, and the assignment of allowable to marginal wells governed by the aforesaid rules and regulations, as well as a substantial change in the balancing of production procedure required by said rules. Copies of the proposed amendments will be circulated by way of the Commission's general mailing list and will be available upon request made to the Commission at its Santa Fe office.

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THE FOLLOWING CASES WILL BE HEARD BEFORE DANIEL S. NUTTER, EXAMINER, OR ELVIS A. UTZ, ALTERNATE EXAMINER, IN THE OIL CONCERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF SAID BUILDING AT 9:30 A.M.

CASE 4437: Southeastern New Mexico nomenclature case calling for the creation, abolishment and extension of certain pools in Lea and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico.

(a) Create a new pool in Lea County, New Mexico, classified as an oil pool for Wolfcamp production and designated as the East Corbin-Wolfcamp Pool. The discovery well is the Phillips Petroleum Company Lea No. 23 located in Unit P of Section 30, Township 17 South, Range 34 East, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 17 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, NMPM SECTION 30: SE/4

(Case 4437 continued)

(b) Create a new pool in Rossevelt County, New Mexico, classified as a gas pool for Pennsylvanian production and designated as the East New Hope-Pennsylvanian Gas Pool. The discovery well is the H. L. Brown, Jr., Mary Martin No. 1 located in Unit P of Section 29, Township 6 South, Range 34 East, NMPM. Said pool would comprise:

TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, NMPM SECTION 29: S/2

(c) Abolish the Warren-Abo Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, described as:

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 38 EAST, NMPM SECTION 25: S/2
SECTION 26: SE/4
SECTION 35: NE/4
SECTION 36: N/2

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, NMPM SECTION 30: S/2

(d) Extend the Dk-Abo Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 38 EAST, NMPM SECTION 25: S/2
SECTION 26: SE/4
SECTION 35: NE/4
SECTION 36: N/2

TOWNSHIP 20 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, NMPM SECTION 30: S/2

(e) Extend the North Baum-Upper Pennsylvanian Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 13 SOUTH, RANGE 32 EAST, NMPM SECTION 25: SE/4

(f) Extend the Lea-Bone Springs Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 19 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, NMPM SECTION 36: SW/4

(Case 4437 continued)

(g) Extend the Townsend-Morrow Gas Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 16 SOUTH, RANGE 35 EAST, NMPM SECTION 8: SW/4

(h) Extend the Tres Papalotes-Pennsylvanian Pool in Lea County, New $^{\rm M}{
m exico}$, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, NMPM SECTION 34: NW/4

(i) Extend the Tulk-Pennsylvanian Pool in Lea County, New Mexico, to include therein:

TOWNSHIP 14 South, Range 32 East, NMPM SECTION 33: SE/4 SECTION 34: S/2

Application of Eastland Oil Company for an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, Eddy County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Order No. R-3221, as amended, which order prohibits the disposal of water produced in conjunction with the production of oil on the surface of the ground in Lea, Eddy, Chaves and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico, after January 1, 1969. Said exception would be for applicant's leases comprising the NW/4 NW/4 of Section 5 and the NE/4 NE/4 of Section

6, Township 18 South, Range 31 East, Grayburg-Jackson Field area, Eddy County, New Mexico.

CASE 4439: Application of Shenandoah Oil Corporation for an unorthodox gas well location, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks approval for an unorthodox Pennsylvanian well location 1980 feet from the South line and 660 feet from the West line of Section 22, Township 6 South, Range 27 East, undesignated Pennsylvanian gas pool, Chaves County, New Mexico. The S/2 of said Section 22 to be dedicated to the well.

CASE 4440: Application of Moran Oil Producing & Drilling Corporation for a waterflood project, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to institute a pilot waterflood project in the Hobbs Pool by the injection of water into the Grayburg formation through one well located in the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 13, Township 18 South, Range 37 East, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant further seeks a procedure whereby additional injection wells may be approved administratively.

CASE 4425: (Readvertised)

Application of Southern Gulf Production Company for an unorthodox gas well location, San Juan County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks as an exception to the gas well location requirements of the Commission Rules and Regulations, approval for the Southern Gulf Production Company Navajo Tocito Well No. 4 at an unorthodox gas well location 1963 feet from the South line and 977 feet from the West line of Section 10, Township 26 North, Range 18 West, undesignated Pennsylvanian gas pool, San Juan County, New Mexico.

CASE 4426: (Readvertised)

Application of Texaco Inc. for salt water disposal, Chaves County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the Devonian formation in the open-hole interval from 11,150 feet to 11,794 feet in its Peery Federal Well No. 4 located in Unit A of Section 29, Township 15 South, Range 30 East, Little Lucky Lake-Devonian Pool, Chaves County, New Mexico.

CASE 4441:

Application of Texaco Inc. for salt water disposal, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks authority to dispose of produced salt water into the Seven Rivers formation in the open-hole interval from 3260 feet to 3415 feet in its C. E. Penny Federal (NCT-4) Well No. 2 located in Unit F of Section 19, Township 25 South, Range 38 East, Langlie Mattix-Seven Rivers Pool, Lea County, New Mexico.

CASE 4442:

Application of Texaco Inc. for an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations, Lea County, New Mexico. Applicant, in the above-styled cause, seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than one single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in Unit E of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, Lea County, New Mexico, as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line;

Said Well No. 10 is a relatively straight hole with all perforations confined entirely to said Unit 8, while said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole and would have perforations both in said Unit E of Section 12 and in Unit H of Section 11 of said Township and Range.



Symbol of Selvice BEFORE EXAMINER NUTTER

OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REPORT

of

SUB-SURFACE DIRECTIONAL

SURVEY

TEXACO, INC.

STATE AE WELL NO. 8

WELL NAME VACUUM FIELD

BUCKEYE, NEW MEXICO LOCATION

JOB NUMBER

TYPE OF SURVEY

DATE

WT 63363 WT 63363A COMBINATION

MAY 31, 1963 JUNE 21, 1963

SURVEY BY

JACK B. JONES & CECIL R. STRASNER

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RECORD OF SURVEY

JOB NO. WI 63363 & WI 633630 DATE May 31, 1963 & June 21, 1963

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GMH/dr 3-24-71

> BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 4442 (de novo)

Order No. R-4072-A

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COM-MISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing de novo at 9 a.m. on February 17, 1971, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," and was continued to 9 a.m. on February 23, 1971.

NOW, on this _____day of March, 1971, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony presented and the exhibits received at said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That after a hearing before an examiner, Commission Order No. R-4072, dated December 8, 1970, was entered denying the application of Texaco Inc., seeking an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment

-z-CASE No. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

of more than a single top unit allowable for the Vacuum - Abo Reef Pool to two wells, the surface locations of which are in the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12, Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico, as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line.

- (3) That the applicant requested and was granted a hearing de novo before the Oil Conservation Commission.
- (4) That the application of Texaco Inc., was amended to also seek, as an alternative to the above-described request, an exception to Rule 104-C-I of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the above-described Well No. 8 to have perforations outside the horizontal limits of the proration unit dedicated to the well.
- (5) That said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole that bottomed in the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 11, Township 18 South, Range 34 East.
- (6) That on July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to dedicate the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 to Well No. 8 and ordered to confine the perforated interval to said guarter-guarter section.
- (7) That on said July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to locate its above-described Well No. 10 on said SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, provided said well was drilled in such a manner

-3-CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

as to ensure that the perforated interval of said well was confined to the horizontal limits of said SW/4 NW/4.

- (8) That the applicant seeks authority to additionally perforate Well No. 8 in such a manner that it would be perforated within the horizontal limits of both of the above-described proration units and to produce more than one top unit allowable for the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 from the above-described two wells or in the alternative permit said Well No. 8 to produce as the dedicated well for the proration unit comprising the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 with perforations both within and without the horizontal limits of said dedicated units.
- (9) That said Well No. 8 is incapable of producing more than a marginal allowable through perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11.
- (10) That said Well No. 10 is capable of producing more than a top unit allowable through perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12.
- (11) That perforating said Well No. 8 as requested by the applicant would permit the production of additional oil by said Well No. 8.
- (12) That whether said additional oil produced by Well No. 8 is credited to the proration unit comprising the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 or the proration unit comprising the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 it would in fact be produced from perforations confined to the horizontal limits of the unit comprising the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12.

-4-CASE NO. 4442 (de novo) Order No. R-4072-A

- (13) That the permitted top unit allowable in the subject pool is based upon a standard protation unit consisting of approximately 40 surface acres substantially in the form of a square which is a legal subdivision of the United States Public Land Surveys, or on a governmental quarter-quarter section or lot.
- (14) That permitting the applicant to produce more than one top unit allowable from two wells having perforations within the horizontal limits of the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, a single proration unit, would allow the operator to produce more oil from said single proration unit than other operators in the subject pool are permitted to produce from a single proration unit, and would, therefore, violate the correlative rights of the other operators in the pool.
 - (15) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the subject application is hereby denied.
- (2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

DRAFT

GMH/esr December 1, 1970

BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE No. <u>4442</u>

APPLICATION OF TEXACO INC. (FOR AN EXCEPTION TO RULE 505 OF THE COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

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ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

9:30

This cause came on for hearing at 8 a.m. on October 14, 1970 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Daniel S. Nutter

NOW, on this ____day of __December_, 1970, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) That the applicant, Texaco Inc., is the owner and operator of a lease comprising, among other lands, the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 11 and the SW/4 NW/4 of Section 12, both in Township 18 South, Range 34 East, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.
- (3) That the applicant seeks an exception to Rule 505 of the Commission Rules and Regulations to permit the assignment of more than one single top unit allowable for the Vacuum-Abo Reef Pool to wells, the surface locations of which are in the above-described SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12 as follows:

State "AE" Well No. 8 - 2310 feet from the North line and 330 feet from the West line;

State "AE" Well No. 10 - 1980 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line.

- (4) That said Well No. 8 is a crooked hole that bottomed in the above-described adjoining SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11.
- (5) That on July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to dedicate the SE/4 NE/4 of said Section 11 to Well No. 8 and ordered to confine the perforated interval to said quarter-quarter section.
- (6) That on said July 9, 1963, the applicant was authorized to locate its above-described Well No. 10 on said SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12, provided said well was drilled in such a manner as to ensure that the perforated interval of said well was confined to the horizontal limits of said SW/4 NW/4.
- (7) That the applicant now proposes to additionally perforate Well No. 8 in such a manner that it would be perforated within the horizontal limits of both the above-described quarter-quarter sections and to produce more than one top allowable from the above-described two wells, both having perforated intervals within the horizontal limits of one proration unit; namely, the SW/4 NW/4 of said Section 12.
- (8) That the production of more than one top unit allowable from two wells having perforations within the horizontal limits of a single proration unit would violate the correlative rights of other operators in the subject pool.
 - (9) That the subject application should be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) That the subject application is hereby denied.
- (2) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

CASE 4443: Application of PAN AMERICAN FOR DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING, RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.